



Pest Detection and Management Programs

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Weekly Notice, December 17, 2004

This "Weekly Notice" is prepared by the Pest Detection and Management Programs (PDMP) to communicate recent important events. These notices and other more detailed program information can be found at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/reports/>

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

New Jersey:

On December 8, Rosa Yoo, New Jersey Forestry/Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Outreach coordinator, gave an ALB presentation to the Soil and Water Conservation Society at their annual meeting in New Brunswick, NJ.

On December 12, the *Newark Star-Ledger* ran a story on the history of the ALB Cooperative Eradication Program. The story was picked up by AP Wire and ran in the following publications: *New York Newsday*, *Philadelphia Inquire*, *Asbury Park Press* and *Delaware News Journal*.

As of December 15, 249 trees have been removed from the Carteret ALB Infestation Site; 197 infested and 52 high-risk exposed host trees. Crews continue to work this week in and around the Tower Trailer Park in Carteret. Approximately 1,000 host trees, including the 410 infested trees plus a number of high risk host trees, will be removed during this first phase of tree removal. More than 4,000 host trees will be removed over the next several months.

Field surveys of the Carteret ALB Infestation continued this week with 57,435 trees inspected to date, with a total of 410 infested trees detected. One new compliance agreement was signed this week, for a total of 73 to date. The quarantine zone is 10.5 square miles. Twenty six USFS climbers, two NJDA climbers, and twenty four program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, and NJ Forestry are performing survey and regulatory activities.

On December 15, 2004 a reporter with Telemundo, Spanish-speaking Cable TV Network in NY/NJ, requested to cover the ALB Cooperative Eradication Program as they remove trees from the Carteret, New

Jersey Infestation site. APHIS-Legislative and Public Affairs is coordinating with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's Public Information Office to accommodate the request; anticipate coverage on December 21 or 22.

NEW YORK:

On December 9, Mike Bohne, USDA Forest Service Entomologist/ ALB Outreach coordinator for the New York ALB Program, and Megan Sheremata, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Forester/ALB Outreach, provided training to 35 volunteers from New York's Prospect Park, in Brooklyn, on how to survey for and report any finding of the ALB. To date, the program has trained 55 volunteers in the Prospect Park area.

On December 16, New York ALB Cooperative Eradication Program personnel (Mike Bohne, USDA Forest Service Entomologist/ ALB Outreach coordinator, and Dan Moore, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets ALB Compliance Coordinator), conducted ALB Compliance Training for green industry, city and county public works personnel at Massapequa Town Hall in Long Island, NY.

REGULATORY:

The NY ALB project is continuing to work with a waste consolidator/transfer station in the Queens Quarantine area that has been moving mix lots of regulated host and non host tree debris to a facility in Pennsylvania for composting. Within the past 11 months this company has moved 39, truck loads to this site. NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets has issued a state quarantine order and PPQ program personnel have issued an EAN to prohibit further movement of regulated material out of state. The company has been cooperating with the program. On December 14th, ALB Co-director Joseph Gittleman contacted State Plant Health Director (SPHD) Gary Clement regarding this issue. Gary will be sending the state safeguarding officer to the composting site to review their wood waste handling procedures and to begin a survey of tree in the surrounding area. ALB PPQ staff from NY will be available to assist with inspections and to provide on site



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training to PA staff if required. IES will be informed of the outcome of program findings in New York and the findings of the SPHD in PA. Should the consolidator wish to continue using the out of state disposal site, an appropriate compliance agreement will be required.

REFORESTATION:

On December 7, the USDA FS conducted a one day ALB Reforestation/Urban Community Forester Program Meeting in Newark, NJ. The meeting brought together state and federal staff (particularly the Urban and Community Foresters) who are working the ALB reforestation efforts in NY and NJ, to share information, provide program updates, and identify opportunities to cooperate. Presentations were made by: Mike Stefan, USDA-APHIS-PPQ Director of Emergency Programs, Mike Bohne, USDA Forest Service Entomologist/ALB Outreach coordinator for the New York ALB cooperative Eradication Program, Rosa Yoo, New Jersey Forestry/ALB Outreach coordinator, and Megan Sheremata, New York State Forestry/ALB Outreach coordinator and Pam Tappan, New Jersey Forest Service. The meeting was attended by: Jerry Carlson, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Mike D'Erricho and Dave Johnson, New Jersey Forest Service, and Dennis Souto, John Parry and Judy Antipin, USDA-FS.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE INFORMATION SYSTEM:

New York ALB offices have completed their final data review and submitted databases to REI for migration into the ERIS system.

Source: Joseph Gittleman

CITRUS CANCKER

USDA-APHIS is adopting as a final rule, without change, the interim rule that was published on September 14, 2004, that amends the regulations in "Subpart-Citrus Canker" (7 CFR part 301.75 through 301.75-16). No comments were received on the interim rule during the public comment period that closed on November 15, 2004. The new rule updates the list of areas in the State of Florida quarantined because of

citrus canker and also releases some areas from quarantine. Specifically, the boundary of one quarantine was expanded due to a detection of citrus canker in an area adjacent to but outside the quarantine area (contiguous quarantine area located in Broward/Miami-Dade/ Palm Beach and Monroe counties). Also fifteen new areas in eight additional counties were added [DeSoto (4), Hendry (2), Highlands (1), Highlands/Desoto (1), Lee (2), Manatee (1), Orange (1), Palm Beach (2), Sarasota (1)]. Four areas in three counties [Collier (1), Hendry (2), Manatee(1)] were removed from the list of quarantined area because regular surveys showed them to have been free of citrus canker for at least 2 years.

Submitted by: Lynn Evans-Goldner